



# **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY ACTS**

**SUBJECT: AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE**

**FILE NUMBER: 100-4712**

**PART: 12 OF 19**



**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

# FILE DESCRIPTION

## BUREAU FILE

SUBJECT America First Committee

FILE NO. 100-4712

SECTION NO. 15\*

SERIALS 529

through

541 (End)

\* Sections 12, 13 and 14 of this file have been withheld pursuant to subsection (b) (3) of the Freedom of Information Act, the underlying statute being Title 26, United States Code, Section 6103.

*Memo.andum*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

100-5382  
TO :

Director, FBI

DATE: May 28, 1945

FROM : GUY HOTTEL, SAC, Washington

SUBJECT: AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE  
Informant  
Information Concerning

On May 25, 1945, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] appeared in the Washington Field Office at which time she furnished the following information.

[REDACTED] and an honorably discharged soldier of this war residing at [REDACTED], had corresponded with her requesting that she ascertain the status of the America First Committee inasmuch as he had been approached on his discharge from the Army to become a member.

[REDACTED] according to informant, was [REDACTED] prior to entering the service almost three years ago. [REDACTED] has informed [REDACTED] there is a group within [REDACTED] who are active in the America First Committee and who are attempting to arrange for [REDACTED] membership inasmuch as he is a discharged veteran of this war.

[REDACTED] related this group within [REDACTED] is a group of German extraction which, prior to the war, was active in German and Bund affairs in and around Indianapolis.

[REDACTED] would be glad to discuss this matter with agents of the Bureau if necessary.

The above is being called to the Bureau's attention, as well as to the attention of the Chicago and Indianapolis Offices, inasmuch as it is apparent the America First Committee is soliciting membership from veterans of this war.

CC Chicago  
Indianapolis

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 02-26-90 BY SP8 BJK

312,519

JUN 14 1945

WILLIAM A. FULLER M. E.  
COCOA FLORIDA

CONSULTING ENGINEER

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10-26-90 BY SP8 BTJ/c

January 22 1946

Mr Hoover Chief  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington D C

Sir,

I want something to show that I have a clean slate. Just because I was probably the only member of The America First Committee in this vicinity was an outspoken Roosevelt critic was brave enough to stand for my convictions there has been a continuous stream of opprobrium directed at my wife and me which has not ended since the war. Now my boy is back from Europe and I want a little peace. I am 58 years old. Your department didn't help matter any by sending a couple of youthful operatives in answer probably to an anonymous note to talk with us. Now that has got out. Now we don't know. We certainly didn't say anything about it. We were ashamed. Some one is peddling it around. The least you can do is to send someone up here and see who it is that is keeping this up. I haven't many more years to live and it is contemptible to make me suffer this sort of malice.

Yours truly,

INDEXED

RECORDED

100-4710-330  
F B I  
29 JAN 25 1946

67C

William A. Fuller

This individual is only 9  
is giving 15 and his  
made for my statement  
not to file with  
Adm. file 65-2411

February 19 1946

EX-40

Mr. William A. Faller  
Cocoa, Florida

Dear Sir:

With reference to your letter of January 22, 1946, I wish to advise that the subject matter mentioned therein is not within the investigative jurisdiction of this Bureau and, therefore, I will be unable to comply with your request.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10-26-90 BY SP8 BTJ/CL

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAIL ROOM  
FEB 21 1946

FEB 28 1946

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR  
FEB 20 1946

BALTIMORE 2, MD.

July 3, 1946

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
F.B.I. - U.S. Dept. of Justice  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Would you kindly inform me, what, if anything  
unfavorable, that your department has learned concerning the  
American First Committee?

It was my privilege to serve on this committee  
here previous to the war and knew the organization to be a good  
sound American organization. I am enclosing a leaflet describing  
the principles of this organization.

My purpose in asking this information of you is  
that some friends of mine insist that this was a Communist  
organization and I can not persuade them otherwise.

I would appreciate if you would let me have the  
findings of your department.

Sincerely yours,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10-26-90 BY SP8 BTJ/csc

ENCL 351

1-XI

RECORDED

INDEXED

25

SE 20

100

F B I

JUL 24 1946



FOR WAR  
said  
KLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT

and

80%

of the American People

**Are Against War**

National Defense at any Expense  
But Keep our Boys at Home

100-4712-521

ENCLOSURE

**We Will Not Participate Not  
In Foreign Wars**

"We are arming ourselves in  
purpose of conflict or *intervention*  
*foreign disputes*. I repeat again that  
on the platform of our party; we  
participate in foreign wars and we  
send our *Army, Naval or Air Force*  
fight in foreign lands outside of  
Americas except in case of attack."

"It is for peace that I have labor  
and it is for peace that I shall labor  
the days of my life."

Philadelphia, Oct. 23, 1940

**The First Purpose of Our Foreign  
Policy Is to Keep Out of War**

"We look at the old world of Europe  
today. It is an ugly world, poisoned by  
hatred, and greed and fear. We can see  
what has been the inevitable conse-  
quence of that poison—it has been war."

"And we look at this country, built by  
generations of peaceable, friendly men  
and women who had in their hearts faith  
—faith that the good life can be obtained  
by those who work for it."

"We know that we are determined to  
defend our country and with our neigh-  
bors to defend this hemisphere. We are  
strong in our defense."

"The first purpose of our foreign policy  
is to keep our country out of war."



Principles

## The America First Committee

1. Our first duty is to keep America out of foreign wars. Our duty is to destroy democracy, not have it. A path to war is a false path to it.
2. Not by acts of war abroad but serving and extending democracy at home can we aid democracy and freedom in other lands.
3. In 1917 we sent our American ships into the war zone and this led us to war. In 1941 we must keep our naval convoys and merchant vessels on this side of the Atlantic.
4. We must build a defense, for our own shores, so strong that no foreign power or combination of powers can invade our country, by sea, air or land.
5. Humanitarian aid is the duty of a strong, free country at peace. With proper safeguard for the distribution of supplies, we should feed and clothe the suffering and needy people of the occupied countries.

from

**AMERICA-FIRST COMMITTEE**  
**Maryland Chapter**

516 N. CHARLES STREET, BALTIMORE, MD.

Version 6998

EDGES

CTION CAMPAIGN

Are Not Going to Be Sent  
Foreign Wars

While I am talking to you, fathers  
here, I give you one more assur-  
I have said this before, but I shall  
again and again, and again, your  
are not going to be sent into any  
foreign wars.

"They are going into training to form  
a force so strong that, by its very existence,  
it will keep the threat of war far away  
from our shores. Yes, the purpose of our  
defense is defense." Boston, Oct. 30, 1940

**Ships Flying the American Flag Must  
Stay Out of the War Zones.**

"In 1935 in the face of growing dangers  
throughout the world, your government  
undertook to eliminate the hazards which  
in the past had led to war. We made  
it clear that ships flying the American  
flag could not carry munitions to a bel-  
ligerent; and that they must stay out of  
war zones."

New York City, Oct. 28, 1940

**I Am Fighting to Keep Out of  
Foreign Wars**

"I am fighting to keep this nation pros-  
perous and at peace. I am fighting to keep  
our people out of foreign wars and to keep  
foreign conceptions of government out of  
our United States." Brooklyn, Nov. 1, 1940

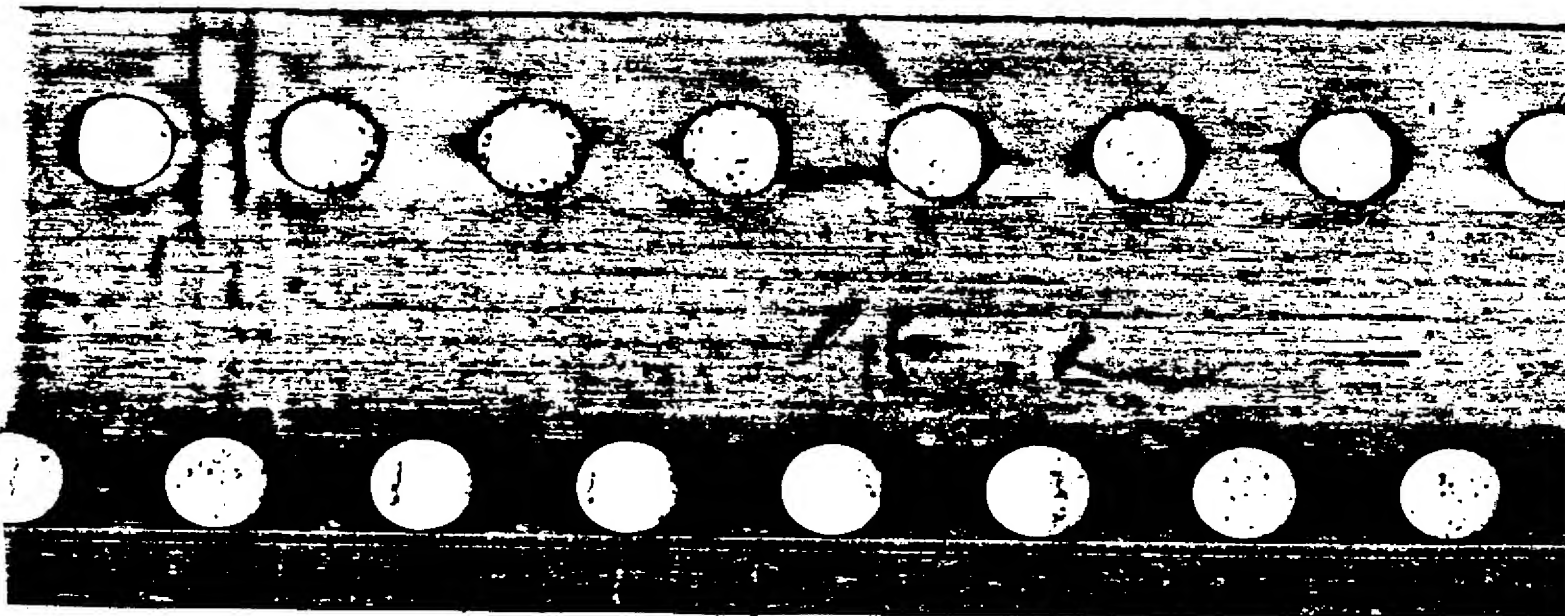
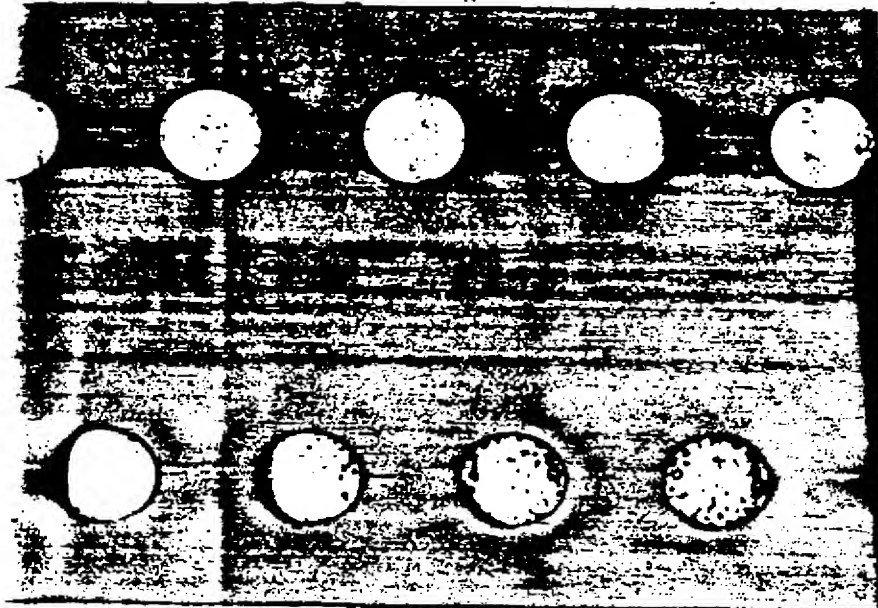
THE HORRORS W

**demand Faithful Ful**  
**of PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT**  
**Solemn and Sacred Promises**

Write — Wire — Telephone  
President Roosevelt  
Four Senators  
Your Congressmen

JOIN WITH US NOW

ENROLL YOUR NEIGHBORS  
in the  
**AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE**  
Maryland Chapter  
516 North Charles St. Baltimore, Md.



RECORDED  
165-2

100-4712-531

July 19, 1946

[REDACTED]

b7c

Dear [REDACTED]

Reference is made to your letter of July 3, 1946.

I regret that I am unable to furnish you information along the lines requested. By virtue of a long-standing policy promulgated by the Attorney General of the United States, the files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation are held as confidential and information contained therein may not be released for other than official purposes. I am sure you will appreciate the reason and the necessity for such a policy.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

[REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10-26-90 BY SP8 BTJ/col

CAO b7c

RECEIVED  
JUL 19 1946 P.  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JUL 8 1946

[REDACTED]

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : R. T. HARBO

DATE: 11-15-46

FROM : H. B. LONG

SUBJECT: Unsub; Anonymous Letter Signed "American First Committee"  
Sedition  
Bureau file 100-4712

MAILED 10-26-90 [SP18] [66]

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. E. A. Tamm  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Carson  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Gurnea  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Hendon  
Mr. Pennington  
Mr. Quinn Tamm  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Gandy

There is attached the file which has been maintained in the Laboratory in connection with the above captioned matter. It is desired that this file be maintained as an enclosure behind the main file in the Records Section.

Attachment

ENCLOSURE BEHIND FILE

100-4712-532  
NOT RECORDED  
36 NOV 18 1946

ENCL

53 NOV 19 1946

b7c



165-2

January 16, 1948

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

AMERICA FIRST Committee

Dear Sir,

[REDACTED] b7c

In a recent discussion with a friend of mine we started talking about the pros & cons of the "American Loyalty Committee". We both realized how unenformed we were about the committee's activities & beliefs -

I would very much appreciate your enlightenment regarding the committee's activities & beliefs -

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED 12  
JAN 22 1948  
RECORDED  
INDEXED  
DATE 10-26-90 SP8 BTJ/k

RECORDED

INDEXED



February 14, 1948.

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,  
F.B.I. - Justice Dept.,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I am wondering if your office has on its books  
the name of [redacted] who at present is living with his wife  
at [redacted]. He claims that  
he has no home address but [redacted]

He has spoken at the Eola Park Forum several times this winter on subjects that show prejudiced reading and always aims to stir up trouble among Americans. He gets quite bitter against the Jews and the negroes, condemns the Marshall Plan and says the Republic is in its last days. He has all the appearances of a Russian spy altho he condemns the Russians—that probably is policy. He says our government is in improper hands, etc. He is a man rather stocky, with a twichy face in his late fifties. I have talked with him and he tells me that he was with the America First during the war and went about wherever he could find Germans. He claims he is of American parentage and educated in Methodist schools. He seems just now to line up with a tall middle-aged man from Boston who will argue with anyone in the audience and together they challenge speakers, the management, etc. They want fight and challenge everyone except other. I have not yet learned this latter man's name. We also had a [redacted] here from Chicago who gave three lectures on capitalism saying that he was of course, for capitalism but that now that communism was in the offing we should try to understand it, etc.

All of this seems suspicious to me. The management is very easy-willing to take anyone for speakers and by professing innocence of communism make the large part of the hearers believe them but I cannot help but feel that they are doing much harm. I do not know whether we have laws that could handle their case since they may be American citizens or not. However, I thought that I should appraise you of the matter. I shall be glad to know if you know anything about these men and if there is anything that can be done about them.

Very sincerely,

RECORDED

INDEXED

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10-26-90 BY SP8/col

February 20, 1948

RECORDED

EX-116

100-4712-534

Your letter of February 14, 1948, has been received, and I want to thank you for sending the information concerning the individual you mention. Although I would like to be of service, in accordance with a long-standing policy of this Bureau any data in our files is confidential and available for official use only. I am sure you will understand the reason for this rule and that no inference will be drawn from my inability to be of assistance. The patriotic motives prompting your communication are indeed appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10-26-90 BY SP8BJS/C

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

cc, Miami, with copy of 100-4712-534

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED 11  
FEB 20 1948 P.M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

1 MAR 17 1948

1659  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.D.

Sept. 7, 1948

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10-26-90 BY SP96TS/CAL

Gentlemen-

In 1941 or thereabouts, [redacted] was in unpleasant circumstances in the City because of his activity in the America First Committee. He came to [redacted], a mill town where he was employed [redacted] for three years when he was not re-elected because of questionable activities.

[redacted] was employed in a store for a year or two during which time I came to the community as [redacted]

In March 1947 [redacted]

as he has kept his residence here.

I would be interested to know whether when the America First Com. was investigated by the FBI and found to be Communist inspired and organized, there was a roster of AFC members from New Haven, Conn. that included the name of the above.

Such information might not be available to me but if there is anything to report, you might be able and willing to inform me as to what official may obtain such information.

I feel that the intent to keep trouble brewing has a purpose in case certain international possibilities develop.

I would appreciate any information you can furnish me.

RECORDED - 61

VERY TRULY YOURS

INDEXED - 61

*me  
of info  
available, where can I find  
the FBI finding on it  
I am?*

101-4712  
19 SEP 22 1948

*Sub Committee*

100-4712-536

September 10, 1948

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10-26-90 BY SP8 BTJ/col

[REDACTED]

b7c

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter of September 7, 1948 has been received. I regret that I cannot be of service in connection with your request for information which may be in the files of this Bureau, as, in accordance with a long-standing policy, our files are confidential and available for official use only. I am sure you will understand the reason for this rule and that no inference will be drawn that we do, or do not, have information in our files because of my inability to be of assistance.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAILED 2

SEP 10 1948 P.M.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. FLETCHER

FROM : D. M. Ladd

SUBJECT: AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE

DATE: March 26, 1948

On March 23, 1948, Mr. G. L. Millington of the Library of the State Department called and requested the present address of the America First Committee.

After checking, I advised him that this committee had gone out of existence some years ago and there was no indication that it had an office at the present time.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10-26-90 BY SP8BTS/c

337  
51 APR 12 1948

RECORDED

100-4712-  
FBI  
19 APR 6 1948

EX-31

C-1140

b7C

June 19, 1953

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10-26-90 BY SP8BTS/KAL

Dear Mr. Hoover: The enclosed was mailed to numerous citizens of the Palm Beaches and in discussing it with a number of persons, the general opinion was "we don't like the tone of the letter". About this time of year, every summer, certain cliques, or perhaps it is the same group, to start some kind of controversy. I did not hear Upton Close on the radio, nor have I discovered anyone who has, so don't know what his ideas were; also don't know just what he stands for. However, wouldn't be influenced by anything like the enclosed, which I think is definitely "rable rousing". Also understand "America First" was considered subversive several years ago and "broken up". Right? Another thing we did not know about the piece, it was not signed, and that always makes one wonder, why persons try to hide their identity.

Thought it over and decided the best thing to do was: not answer it but send it to you, for whatever investigation or consideration you may think best to give it.

Very truly yours

[Redacted signature]

*Handwritten:*  
ack 6-26-53  
[Redacted]

REC'D RECORDS SEC

RECORDED - 75

EX-119-6 LN 23

100-4712-537

JUL 27 1953

(enclosure)



UPTON CLOSE told the story ( just as it is in the court records) of the false arrests and trial called the Mass Sedition Case of 1942 to 1944.

This case was a persecution of anti-communist, anti-New Deal and anti FEPC Americans by the Jewish detective bureau and agitation group call itself "Anti-Defamation League". The persecution and prosecution was sponsored by Walter Winchell (Weinschall) and Drew Pearson-both given medals and favors annually by said "League". Winchell used his sponsor's radio time to promote not only the indictments and trial...which Judge Bolitha Law after four years dismissed with the scathing statement; "A travesty of justice". With the aid of every Red cell and left wing "liberal" in America, Winchell pushed into a sale of millions to his unsuspecting listeners a fraudulent book called "Under Cover", which attacks innocent and guilty persons by the "guilt by association" method. In spite of Winchell's influence and the publisher's wealth, the book was finally "brought to book", decided by Federal Judge John P. Barnes-in the City of Chicago (1946) to be..."written by a person who would write anything for a dollar, published by a publisher who would do anything for a dollar." Said Judge Barnes: "This book charges the plaintiff was disloyal, anti-semitic and a Nazi agent. During the entire course of the I have never heard any evidence to sustain any of these charges".

Said Judge Barnes also: "If any man changes his name, it is human curiosity to know both his names, and that sort of man must bear the burden. If persons are Jews and Communists, they must bear that burden and it will not benefit them or their religion to set up a taboo against mentioning the fact. In our efforts to refrain from persecution we must not establish meaningless taboos. We must not establish the taboo that under no condition must we mention a person is a Jew. That will not stop persecution."

Following which, Judge Barnes cracked down on the Winchell-Carlson book. ( Author and publishers admitted it was written by a man born in Armenia and who had been a communist agitator there, and who had used twenty odd aliases, ending up with the "Swedish" one in the book-"John Roy Carlson") You might look in your book stack and see if you have a copy. The Court adjudged-" Five hundred pages of twaddle, with a few outrageous and unfounded charges of which any citizen might properly complain".

NOW, 7 YEARS LATER, AS THE SHOE IS ON THE OTHER FOOT AND EDITORS OF GREAT PAPERS AND PUBLISHING HOUSES ( as Little, Brown & Co.) ARE CONFESSING THAT THEY WERE COMMUNISTS, AND AS EVERY PINK IS SQUEALING AGAINST " GUILT BY ASSOCIATION"...NOW, UNDER THE GUISE OF " PROTECTING JEWS" THE REPRESENTATIVES OF A PRIVATE GESTAPO DARE GO SECRETLY TO THE OPERATOR OF A RADIO STATION AND THE PROGRAM CHAIRMAN OF A BUSINESS MAN'S SERVICE CLUB IN PALM BEACH COUNTY, DEMANDING THE SUPPRESSION OF A NARRATOR WHO ONLY TELLS WHAT WAS DONE WHEN THE "REDS" WERE STILL LEAGUED WITH THE "UNITED FRONT" AND A CORRUPT ADMINISTRATION WHICH PUT HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF HELPLESS PEOPLE INTO THE POWER OF STALIN AND GAVE HIM 21 BILLIONS OF UNITED STATES WEALTH.

CAN YOU LET THIS HAPPEN IN PALM BEACH COUNTY ?

ALL THAT IS NEEDED TO DESTROY THIS REPUBLIC...IS THAT GOOD PEOPLE DO

NOTHING! THE FIRST CASUALTY IS THAT OF FREE SPEECH!

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10-26-90 BY SP8 BTJ/CL

Senator Jack.B . Tenny, Chairman of the Un-American Activities Committee of the California Legislature,says in a special report,out in May 1953;

" Officials of the Anti-Defamation League view the disproportionate number of Jews exposed in communist activities with a degree of alarm (but)..to oppose loyalty programs for fear that more Jews may be exposed in the process is extremely unrealistic...The Jews of America will find that a private Gestapo Agency such as that conducted by the small clique of the Anti-Defamation League bureaucracy tends to create the discrimination they seek to curb. The only Ghettos in America, after all, are those that are built by the Jewish bureaucracy itself and the quicker these are outlawed by American Jewry the better for American unity."

( Above paragraph from report by Jack B Tenny,Chairman on Un-American Activities, California State Legislature. Full report from Standard Publications, Los Angeles,California. \$ 1.00

\*\*\*\*\*

The Reds and Left-Wingers are organized, and work through racist cliques. The manager of the radio station WWPG has related that when the left-wing Martin Agronsky, who speaks with a guttural, Russian accent, got so "strong" the station dropped him, about six letters came indorsing the dropping; a stack a " foot and a half high" came-demanding his restoration. So-the station manager put him back although he is constantly attacking American employers and belittling business.

That happens because Americans are tolerant even of those who attack Americanism and are asleep to destructive influences. BUT MOSTLY IT HAPPENS BECAUSE AMERICANS ARE UNORGANIZED AND DON'T KNOW WHAT IS GOING ON AND WHAT THEY CAN DO ABOUT IT- WHILE THE REVOLUTIONISTS ARE ORGANIZED AND GET INSTRUCTIONS JUST WHAT TO DO. THIS SITUATION WE MUST CHANGE!

> IT IS NECESSARY TO REVIVE "AMERICA FIRST" ( which never died out)  
in Palm Beach County.

DEAR CITIZEN C. THE PALM BEACHES:

A radio station in our community has been told to drop a truth-telling nationally known commentator, Upton Close, whom it had invited to relate the history of American Radio comment.

The order has been reinforced under threat of asking Jewish businesses to take their advertising away from this radio station.

From the same general source, on June 3rd, came an intolerant and interfering demand by an attorney named Harry Goodmark made on the Program Chairman of a West Palm Beach Service Club that it remove its luncheon speaker!

SUCH INTOLERANCE, INTERFERENCE AND INTIMIDATION-has become a pattern throughout the United States and Canada. It is carried on by an organized left-wing clique of Jewish professional agitators calling themselves "Anti-Defamation League of B'Nai Brith. (Meaning: "Sons of the Covenant"). They collect, by their reports, four to six million dollars a year from Jewish merchants and professional men to "protect" Jews from what they call "anti-semitism" and negroes from "race prejudice"-( as the AGITATORS chooses to define it).

THERE HAS BEEN NO "ANTI-SEMITISM" or discrimination against Jews in this community. BUT-THERE IS AN ATTEMPT BY AN INSIDE JEWISH CLIQUE TO TELL THE PEOPLE OF THIS COMMUNITY-WHO MAY OR MAY NOT SPEAK TO THEM.

Not all Jewish business is taking part in this intolerance, interference and SUPPRESSION OF FREE SPEECH. But-JEWISH BUSINESS MEN CAN QUICKLY STOP IT IF DETERMINED. IT HAS BEEN STOPPED COLD IN OTHER COMMUNITIES!

You might like to let the Jewish merchants with whom you trade and your Jewish friends know how you feel about this- and that it is bad business to boot.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10-26-90 BY SP7BJJ/cu (Over)

AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE.  
Sub-Committee to Protect Free Speech in Palm Beaches.  
By (Respond to) Box 2223-Sta.A. Palm Beach, Florida.

June 26, 1953

100-4712-537

RECORDED - 75

INDEXED - 75

EX-129

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 06-26-90 BY SP8BJS/CL

b7c

Dear [REDACTED]

I appreciate the interest which prompted your letter of June 19, 1953, with enclosure, and I want to thank you for bringing this matter to my attention.

While I would like to be of service, I am unable to comment on this organization inasmuch as data in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only. Also, the FBI is strictly a fact-finding agency and is not authorized to draw conclusions concerning the character and integrity of any organization, individual, or publication.

I know you will understand the reason for this rule and will not infer either that we do or that we do not have any information concerning the organization to which refer.

Sincerely yours,

JUN 29 1953

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

cc-Miami, with copy [REDACTED] incoming.

ATTENTION SAC: The enclosure, submitted by correspondent was a printed letter from the Sub-Committee to Prohibit Free Speech in Palm Beaches of the America First Committee. Its address was given as Box 2223, Station A, Palm Beach, Florida. It was addressed to the citizens of the Palm Beaches and denounced the fact that a radio commentator, named Upton C. [REDACTED] is being forced to leave his position.

(Note Continued on next page.)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Gearty \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

78 JUL 2 - 1953

b7c

[REDACTED]

June 26, 1953

(continued)

Note: Bureau files reflect that the America First Committee was a "clearing house for all anti-Semitic individuals and groups." It was also alleged to be made up of Pro-Fascist groups.

[REDACTED]

b7c

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : The Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

FROM : Warren Olney III, Assistant Attorney General,  
Criminal Division

SUBJECT: AMERICA FIRST, INC.

There are enclosed for your information a copy of a letter dated July 23, 1953, from [REDACTED] regarding America First, Inc., and a copy of this Division's reply thereto.

Enclosure No. 49949

COPIES DESTROYED

5 JUL 27 1973

58 AUG 31 1953

DATE

WO:RMR:sm

116-1-0

August 17, 1953

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Winterrowd  
Mr. Holloman  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Gurnea  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Hendon  
Mr. Pennington  
Mr. Quinn  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Gandy

RECORDED-39  
INDEXED-39

EX-125

100-47  
37 AUG 1953



C O P Y

August 17, 1953

Associate  
[REDACTED]

July 23rd, 1953

Attorney General's Office  
Washington, D. C.

Re: AMERICA FIRST, INC.

Dear Sir:

Please inform me whether or not the above-named corporation has been listed as a subversive, Fascist, or Communistic group by the Attorney General's Office or the Civil Service Commission for the United States. Also please send me a list of the recently declared additions on your list that is consolidated to determine the loyalty of government employees. I understand that 26 groups have recently been added to this group.

If you have no information on the above club, I would suggest that you investigate the club's activities in this area so that unsuspecting citizens do not get involved if there is anything wrong with it. My main purpose in asking for this scrutiny of the club is its apparent BUT VERY SECRET activities in this community recently.

I will be glad to show any agent of yours or the FBI office recent communications that I have received from this group.

With best regards, I am

Sincerely yours,  
[REDACTED]

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5 JUL 27 1973

100-47712-550

INCLÓSUR

Nº 49949

FROM

Department of Justice

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **CHICAGO**

REPORT MADE AT <b>MIAMI</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>10/29/53</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>6/12, 18, 29; 7/21, 28/31, 15; 17, 21, 24, 25, 30; 10/22, 23/53</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>b7c</b>
TITLE <b>AMERIC. FIRST COMMITTEE</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - X</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

America First Committee purportedly active, Palm Beach and West Palm Beach, Florida, area during June and July of 1953

Investigation indicates individual participation with others, but no evidence of an actual organization developed.

**DETAILS:**

On July 24, 1953,

DECLASSIFIED BY **60801 LEP**

**100-4212-539**  
**10-24-90**

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100-4212-539

**NOV 19 1953**

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-50255-3

MM 100-508

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It is to be noted that information concerning the distribution of pamphlets addressed to the "Dear Citizens of the Palm Beaches", and signed by the America First Committee

MM 100-508

was first reported to the Resident Agency Office of West Palm Beach, Florida, by [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] furnished information concerning [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] further states that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], who has allegedly disseminated America First leaflets [REDACTED] in Palm Beach, Florida.

[REDACTED]

AT PALM BEACH AND WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA:

As previously indicated, on July 12, 1953, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED], reported that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]





MM 100-508

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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The Miami Herald, Palm Beach edition, dated July 31, 1953, contained an article captioned "CLOSE Sees Downfall of Republic". This article sets forth that CLOSE appeared as a speaker before the Boynton Beach, Florida, Rotary Club, in which CLOSE spoke, saying that there was little hope for salvaging of the western democracy, claiming a trend towards Socialism and Dictatorship, and the ultimate downfall of the two-party political system in America, and the infiltration of Communism into the United States. CLOSE included in his speech a tirade against Bishop G. BROMLEY OXNAM, and was generally critical of the administration policy with respect to the Korean truce.

[REDACTED], of unknown reliability, advised the following information which relates to this matter

NM 100-508

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[REDACTED]

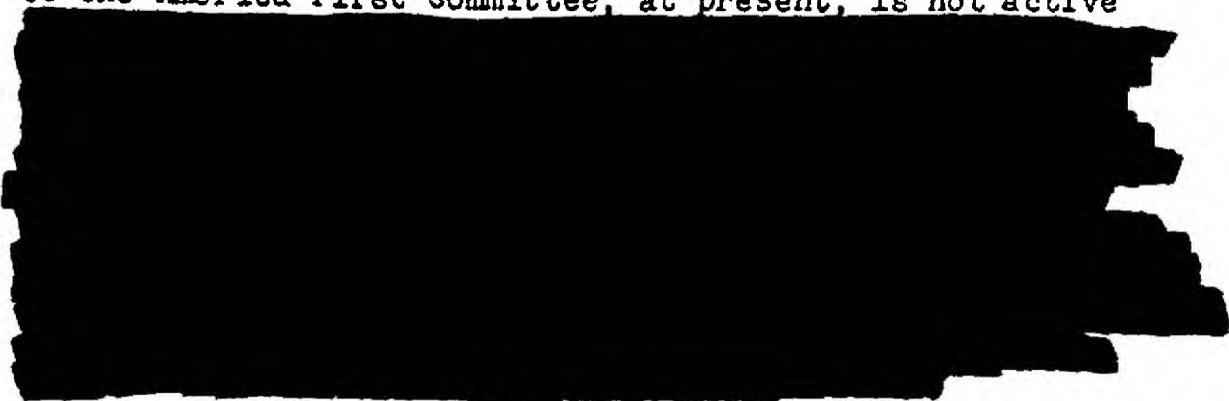
[REDACTED]

b2,  
b7c  
b7D


[REDACTED]

First Committee here in the Palm Beaches and that J. M. BOEHM was reportedly the President of this same organization. According to the informant, GEORGE DEATHERAGE is also a leader

in the America First Movement. However, activity with respect to the America First Committee, at present, is not active





67C  
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The Mobile Office, by communication dated October 6, 1953, advised that  Secretary of State Office, Tallahassee, Florida, had made a careful check of the corporation records in her office on October 2, 1953, and advised that there was no record reflecting that the America First Committee, or any organization having a similar name, had been incorporated in the State of Florida.

A summary of information developed during this investigation concerning the following named individuals reported active in the America First movement is as follows:

UPTON CLOSE, 613 South Lakeside Drive, Lake Worth, Florida, commentator, news analyst, editor of the Washington newsletter captioned "Closer Up", reportedly leader of America First Committee in the Palm Beaches. Logical sources of information unproductive.



## Office Memorandum • UNITEL

GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : SAC, WFO (100-6882)

DATE: November 4, 1953

SUBJECT: AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE  
IS - C

100-6882

RECORDED

DATE 10-26-90 SP8 BTJ/ccl NB

Rerep of SA [REDACTED] Miami, October 29, 1953. b7c

It is noted that Page 5 of rerep reflects that one [REDACTED]

In the above connection it is noted that [REDACTED]

It is noted that in connection with the above-mentioned [REDACTED] rerep reflects that on July 12, 1953, [REDACTED]

The above is being furnished for information. ENC.

cc - Chicago (Info.) (RM)  
Milwaukee (Info.) (RM)  
Miami (100-508) (RM)

RECORDED-67

INDEXED-67

NOV 5 1953

69 NOV 13 1953

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXX

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

## FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

3 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☒ Deletions were made pursuant to the exemptions indicated below with no segregable material available for release to you.

### Section 552

### Section 552a

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FBI/DOJ



OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mason \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Jones \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10-26-96 BY SP-105/cr

318,519

Book orders for  
Lending Library

b7c

Bureau files indicate a Dr. Gregory Mason of  
Riverside, Conn., was one of the leading men  
in the Stamford, Conn., America First Committee  
in 1942. Other references indicate a Professor  
Gregory Mason, NY University, probably the same  
individual, was active in the America First Committee.  
The 3/16/44 "New York Post" carried an article  
in which was stated NY Univ. student publication  
protested alleged anti-British and anti-Administration  
remarks by Prof. Gregory Mason, Journalistic Dep  
(America First Committee was incorporated under  
Not-for-Profit Laws of Illinois 9/19/40, its purposes  
being outlined as to encourage and maintain in USA  
(1) peace and democratic ~~ways~~, (2) a program of  
adequate defense, (3) a furtherance of peace on this  
continent, a policy of non-integration in affairs of  
other continents, (4) to encourage giving help to  
refugees and needy in other lands insofar as such  
help does not endanger the peace of the U.S. Its  
headquarters were in Chi, with approximately 750  
local chapters and units. It generally directed its  
activities toward influencing public opinion in the U.S.  
in opposition to America's involvement in World War II.  
It was dissolved shortly after U.S. entered World War  
II.)

Dear Mr. Hoover: I think I can get a laugh from this lovely gal decides to join the F.B.I. just before the "Catholic-Catholic" and "Protestants" start civil war in 1975 vs. "Pro-Americans". She ends up  
This is fine satire, entertaining and also provocative, learned and witty. More than this, Mr. Mason is saying things about American life and society that need to be said; and the comic surface hardly conceals the meralist and prophet."

—MAXWELL GEISMAR, noted critic, author *Writers in Crisis, The Last of the Provincials*, etc.

marrying into F.B.I. Best wishes,

Gregory Mason  
6/15/56  
Riverside,  
Conn.

**They're talking about...**

Gregory Mason  
Riverside, Conn.,

# the golden archer

A  
Satirical Novel  
of 1975

GREGORY MASON

\$3.50



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66 JUL 10 1956

INDEXED - 64 100-47712-541  
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16 JUL 8 1956

bx

"I was perfectly delighted . . . No, I don't mind anyone pointing out that Southern Calvinists need criticism along with Northern Irish Catholics. Best luck!"

—PAUL BLANSHARD, Author *American Freedom and Catholic Power, Communism, Democracy and Catholic Power, The Irish and Catholic Power*, etc.

"It's a most exciting kick. I trust the censors keep their pants on."

—ERIC TEMPLE BELL, Professor of Mathematics, California Institute of Technology, author many popular books on mathematics (and many science fiction novels under pen name John Taine).

"It is a bawdy and exciting contrivance . . . I wonder if I've really expressed the fun I had with **THE GOLDEN ARCHER**. It bristles with ideas."

—OSCAR CARGILL, author of *Intellectual America*, Chairman, Dept. of English, Wash. Sq. College, N.Y.U.

"I enjoyed your book no end . . . I agreed with your vision of the future, your perspicacity, your courage."

—HERBERT FAULKNER WEST, author, critic and Professor of Comparative Literature, Dartmouth College.

"Utterly stimulating . . . an extraordinarily well plotted book."

—EDMUND S. WHITMAN, author best-selling novel, *No Minor Vices, Guilty in the Tropics, Those Wild West Indies*. Public Relations Director, United Fruit Company.

"**THE GOLDEN ARCHER** is gorgeous! I am having no end of fun reading it."

—LUCIEN PRICE, author *Dialogues of Alfred North Whitehead*, and other books. Contributor of articles to literary magazines.

"The American people would do well to read it and read it."

—ALFRED McCLUNG LEE, author *How To Understand Propaganda*, etc. Chairman, Dept. Sociology and Anthropology, Brooklyn College.

"I have enjoyed enormously your vivid, pungent novel."

—LAWRENCE S. KUHIE, M.D., Professor of Psychiatry,  
Yale University.

"I couldn't put it down . . . Delighted me from start to finish with its humor, suspense . . . and the honesty and truth it is filled with . . . The only thing to do is reread it and there are damned few books I can say that about."

—BENEDICT THIELEN, novelist whose short stories are frequently in *The New Yorker*, *Harper's*, *Atlantic* and in the O. Henry and O'Brien collections.

"What fun to read it! But much more than fun . . . the number of sacred cows skillfully punctured, of pompous pretensions deflated, is exhilarating."

—HENRY PRATT FAIRCHILD, sociologist and author.

"An uproarious reading adventure. Unquestionably creative thinking and a very funny satire."

—ISABEL CURRIER, author of the novel, *The Young and the Immortal*, and many magazine articles. Catholic journalist well known for her fearless exposure of bigotry.

"We've enjoyed THE GOLDEN ARCHER so much that we've initiated a fear-exorcising ceremony at breakfast."

—KENNETH N. STEWART, Professor of Journalism,  
Michigan University.

"I have never read anything like it . . . Whodunit, Satire, Racy Romance, Social Criticism and Analysis of Religion all in one . . . Sweet old ladies will not read it. Your approving audience is limited to (a) high I.Q's, (b) atheists and heretics, (c) libertarians, (d) readers with a taste for social satire, (e) people with insight into the motives behind the various witch-hunts."

—GEORGE B. VETTER, Associate Professor of Psychology,  
New York University, and Secretary, NYU Chapter,  
American Association of University Professors.

"It's a joy to read."

—AARON SUSSMAN, Sussman & Sugar, Inc., specialists in book advertising, New York.

"Highly imaginative, witty, instructive. Your flow of invention seems perfectly inexhaustible, and gives the book a wonderful vitality."

—MILTON CRANE, critic, author, formerly Professor of English, University of Chicago.

"I am deeply disturbed (with tongue in cheek) at your apparent efforts to weaken the moral fiber of our citizens. Also, it bothers me not a little (still with tongue in cheek) to see you link John Calvin and the Pope when anyone knows that only 'Catholics' are 'blind.'"

—O. R. BONTRAGER, Lecturer on General Semantics, Professor of Education, State Teachers College, California, Pa.

"It is such a whirlwind of a book . . . I love it."

VIRGINIA BERRESFORD, well-known artist.

"Seldom have I had so sustained and deep-seated a laugh as that produced by THE GOLDEN ARCHER."

—KARL J. HOLTZKNECHT, Head, Department of English, Graduate School of Arts and Science, New York University.

"I read it with the greatest interest and amusement."

—PAUL LUSSEIMER, M.D., Psychoanalyst and Lecturer.

---

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31 Union Square West, New York 3  
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Please send me . . . . . copy/ies of Gregory Mason's THE GOLDEN ARCHER @ \$3.50 per copy.

I enclose \$ . . . . . in check or money order.

Name . . . . .

Address . . . . .

City & State . . . . .